



NSPC Connections

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REV. DR. JEANNE THOMAS—PASTOR

FEBRUARY 2023

From Your Pastor:

Dear Friends,

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...” (Ecclesiastes 3:1). And so, we find ourselves at a crossroads as we say goodbye to Sara Boninu and her husband, Frank, and give thanks for the many ways she has led our children and youth here at NSPC. Sara’s last day will be February 12, and we will be honoring her both during worship and afterwards in the Gathering Room.

What happens next? Meg Hess has graciously stepped up to chair Vacation Bible School, several people have offered to give the children’s message during worship, and the youth who were attending the middle school Sunday school class will have the option of finishing out the program year with Brad on Sunday mornings, or remaining with their parents in worship. We are planning activities that will keep our children and youth engaged until our new director comes, including a new Life Skills series for the youth, a Family Game Night, and a Kids’ Music Café program after worship on Sunday mornings.

I have met with Session, the Christian Education Commission, the Personnel Committee, and the parents of our youth. We have brainstormed together, and many have offered to help plan or lead in some way. I am confident that we will continue to build our children and youth programs at NSPC in meaningful, faith-filled ways. In addition, the moms of our church have asked me to reinstitute our Mom’s Group. It is a wonderful opportunity for moms to share with each other and grow closer to God.

Change is always difficult. Sara has brought energy, imagination, creativity and love to our youth and will continue to offer her leadership gifts at a larger, nondenominational church in Kennett Square. She and Frank will be moving and Sara will be able to be ordained in the church when she finishes her Masters of Divinity

(Continued on page 2)

Sermons for the Month of February

2/5 — 5th Sunday after Epiphany
1 Corinthians 11:23-26

“Do This, In Remembrance of Me”
Communion



2/12 — 6th Sunday after Epiphany
Matthew 5:17-22

“The Heart of the Matter”
Recognition of Sara Boninu after
worship

2/19— Transfiguration of the Lord
Rich Digby, Preaching

2/26— 1st Sunday in Lent
Music Sunday:
“The Heavens Are Telling”
Directed by Ting Ting Wong

Worship Service
10:00 AM

Join Us!

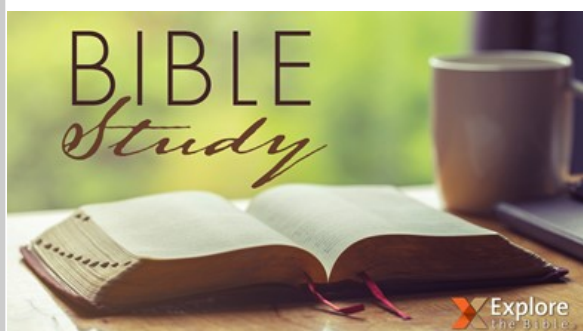
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degree. That would not have been possible in the PC(USA) without additional coursework and other requirements of the Presbyterian Church.

I am convinced that, just as God guided Sara to NSPC, God will lead the right person to guide our children and youth into the future. Please pray for Sara as she moves into her new position, and please pray for NSPC as we seek new leadership for our children and youth who mean so much to all of us.

In Christ,
Jeanne

P.S. This newsletter is filled with opportunities for engagement, from the Rise Against Hunger silent auction, to many mission opportunities, to Bible studies offered for members and nonmembers alike. Please participate where you are able!



**Pastor's Bible Study
Meets Wednesday at 10:30 AM
in the Conference Room**

February 1, 8, 15

March 8, 15, 22, 29

Come join other members and friends in exploring the Bible together. Pastor Jeanne leads the study, using the scriptures on which the next Sunday's sermon is based. Delve into your Bibles, share with one another, and grow in your faith as we learn and grow together! No prior knowledge or experience is necessary. Bring a Bible.

Mark Your Calendars...



SM Our 2023 Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event will take place on **Sunday, March 12, 2023 from 3:00-5:00**. 125 volunteers will be needed to package approximately 20,500 meals for starving school children in developing countries throughout the world. **We welcome and encourage volunteers from age 4-104.**

Please consider participating in this exhilarating and meaningful all-church intergenerational mission event. Sign-ups will be begin in a few weeks.

Any questions? Feel free to contact Lynne Corle (610) 563-5355 lcorle217@gmail.com.

Music Ministry

Happy February 2023!

Thanks to many of you who wished me “Happy Lunar New Year.” We are officially in the year of the Rabbit. Little did we know that the zodiac is like horoscopes. It is a 12-year Chinese zodiac calendar cycle, determined by the year of your birth. *According to Thierry Chow, a Hong Kong- based Geomancy consultant, “The Year of Water Rabbit is going to be a gentler year. We’ll have time to take a breather. We’ve been in the tunnel for the last few years, and the light is getting bigger now.”*



Each Sunday, my plan is to highlight the wonderful NSPC quartet during the anthem piece. You probably have noticed they have been singing some 17th and 18th century short pieces. A sincere “thank you” for all their work. The NSPC singers’ repertoire will explore music written with some more contemporary, some with a classical touch, and some with a modern touch. I hope in that way, our congregation can appreciate a wide variety range of styles.

February 12th will be our beloved Sara’s last Sunday at NSPC. The music ministry has always appreciated her talent and her willingness to sing with the choir whenever she has time. As a result, the choir will be dedicating the anthem, “We Are Called” to Sara. Also, Sara has graciously agreed to sing a lovely song written by Kari Jones Carnes entitled, “The Blessing.” The lyrics are “May his favor be upon you and a thousand generations, may his presence go before you and behind you and beside you, all around you and within you. He is with you.” My plan is to have our lovely NSPC singers join her in the chorus. It will be special for Sara and the entire NSPC music ministry. I will miss her so much for the amazing work we have done together over the past 6 years!

As this month we enter the season of Lent...yes, it is quite early this year...you will listen to the quartet and the singers doing more reflective songs. For February 26th, you will be hearing a special music Sunday, where Elizabeth Brown will be returning to worship with us, providing some soothing reflective, meditative music. In place of the sermon, the NSPC Singers will present a mini cantata, featuring our quartet and our singers. The center piece for that worship service will be *The Heavens Are Telling* from Haydn’s **Creation**. It will be a very special Sunday morning.

~Ting Ting
Director of Music



*quote from an arrival from [cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com)
<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/chinese-zodiac-predictions-2023-hnk-intl>

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

February is American Heart Month, so in preparation, we participated in a CPR class with the American Heart Association! Instructors Joe and Tiffany taught our youth, parents, and preschool teachers how to perform CPR and basic first aid. We learned so much and had a lot of fun!

Prior to the class, our youth attended Camp Orchard Hill's Winterblast Retreat. We worshiped, heard amazing sermons, played games, and grew in our faith (use this link to watch the highlight video: https://youtu.be/f6ljYKJ2_iQ). A huge thank you goes to Ernie Arraya and Eric Jones for chaperoning!

~Sara Boninu, Director of Youth and Family Ministry



NSPC Youth & Family Ministry

February Events

5

FEB.

11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Kids' Group - Pre-k - 4th Grade

Snacks, games, a Bible lesson, and a mission project

5

FEB.

6:00-7:30 P.M.

Youth Group - 6th-12th Grade

Underground Church, worship, devotion, and pizza

11

FEB.

5:00 P.M.

Family Bowling Night - all ages

Sproul Lanes
\$10 per person, per game + tax

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION...**

Contact Sara Boninu
sara.nspc16@gmail.com

NSPC Family,

My deepest thanks goes to you for the wonderful memories we have made and the work we have done for the Kingdom of God the past 6 years. I am amazed by how much our children and youth have grown physically and spiritually, and it has been my pleasure stewarding them in their faith. Frank and I are sad to go, but where the Lord leads, He provides. In the next step of my service in ministry, I will have the opportunity to teach more students about God's love, participate in a contemporary worship band, and be ordained after completing my Master of Divinity. I know the Lord will continue stewarding this church and growing His Kingdom through you. Hold strong to your faith and remember His goodness. Thank you for all the ways you have helped me grow, learn, and lead. I will pray you continue drawing near to Him.



In Christ,

Sara and Frank Boninu



Church School Chatter

..from Christian Education



I am wishing everyone a very warm and fun-filled February. Let's spread God's love by completing acts of kindness as we go throughout our day. You never know how a simple smile or helping hand will bring joy to a stranger. Proverbs 16:24 says, "Kind words are like honey — sweet to the soul."

~Nancy Gingras, Sunday School Superintendent

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Save the Date!

Saturday morning, February 25th 9 AM-12PM

Please join us for our Winter Workday to clean out and organize some of the storage rooms, replace burned out light bulbs in the Christian Education Wing, and do a few other assorted jobs. **Your help will be greatly appreciated.**

Watch for updates in the weekly bulletins.

Thanks,
Jim Shea and Allen Corle,
Building & Grounds co-chairs



Offering Envelopes



2023 Offering Envelopes

Our 2023 offering envelopes have arrived! If you requested envelopes, please pick them up in the Narthex.



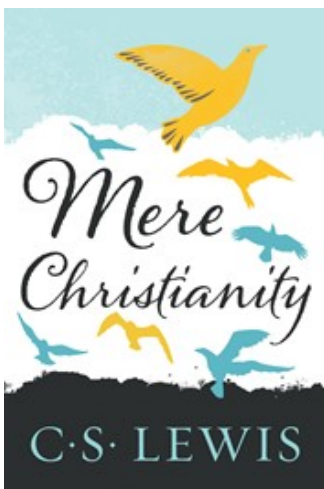
The time commitment for each service is about 20 to 30 minutes before the service starts to about 15 minutes after the service ends. You will be provided training to orient you to the role of the usher. The usher team captain takes responsibility for making sure that each of the duties and tasks for that Sunday are handled. If you are interested or have any questions about the role of the usher, please email me at snydergrant12@gmail.com.

Men's Bible Fellowship

This newly named group will be meeting **every other Tuesday morning at 8 AM** beginning on January 31st. The current study will be the book, Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis. We will begin with Book I, Chapters 1-5.

There is a study guide available. See Heather in the office, or email rkdigby@comcast.net.

All are welcome...no advanced degree in theology needed...just know this will be a lively an enlightening discussion!



Mission News



Thank you to our Wawa pick up people for January: Grant Snyder, Cindy & Kevin Le-master, Nancy Kermon & Joe Kasuska, and Laurie and Doug Lynch. Our delivery to the shelters was handled by Rev. Nancy Holt.

Thank you for the donated food to the baskets by the Mission Table. This food is also taken to the shelter.

February is the Super Bowl. For several years NSPC has asked for soups or stew to be donated during the month. If you can help, please drop off in the Gathering Room.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Each Spring, NSPC participates in the ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING. We need a volunteer to write a newsletter article, bulletin articles, place envelopes in the pews and do a Moment

for Mission. If you can help with this annual additional offering, please contact Sue Bechtold 484-832-8984 or suebechtold1@gmail.com



Mission Baskets Needed:

If you have any baskets in need of recycling, please consider donating to the church. The Youth use them for bingo raffle baskets and many other times a basket is needed. Many people toss them and this is a way to give them a useful end. You may drop off in the church office. Thank you.

Volunteer Needed:

The Church World Service Blanket Drive will be held at NSPC in March. A volunteer is needed to do the publicity, place envelopes in pews and perhaps a Moment for Mission. If you can help, please contact:

Sue Bechtold: 484-832-8984 or suebechtold1@gmail.com Thank you.



Did you know you can support NSPC while you shop? Go to smile.amazon.com and choose Newtown Square Presbyterian Church as your charity. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from all AmazonSmile purchases to NSPC.



Our donations to the Food Bank are needed year-round. As we begin the New Year perhaps a NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION could be added to your list. Please consider donating something nonperishable each week to the food baskets in the Gathering Room. One item weekly from NSPC friends will really add up. This food is then picked up by Rev. Nancy Holt and delivered with the Wawa donations in our freezer to Food Banks in the area. Thank you for your help.

Ronald McDonald House



Please save the pull tabs from pop-top cans (sodas, soups, etc.) Look in the Gathering Room by the Mission Table for the big jug. The flip tops can be placed in the jug and then, when we accumulate a large quantity, they will be delivered to the RMH in Philadelphia. Thank you for your continued participation in NSPC and NSPC-PW mission efforts. Every little bit makes a world of difference.

new socks for the homeless
THE JOY OF SOX®



Since 2010 the Joy of Sox has delivered over 850,000 pairs of socks in the Philadelphia area and throughout the world to people experiencing homelessness. Their mission is to give several pairs of socks every year to the homeless.

The Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa, an honor society for women educators, ask you to join them in donating pairs of new socks. By donating new socks, you will help to ensure toes are warm during the winter months. You can place the socks in a collection box in the Gathering Room.

**Cradles
 to Crayons**
 PHILADELPHIA

Thank you, Newtown Square Presbyterian! Every month, our Cradles to Crayons hamper is full and ready for a trip to their drop off location in Radnor! We have given new winter coats, gently used shoes, tons of books, and about a dozen bags of clothing to this incredible organization.

To answer some frequently asked questions, Cradles to Crayons accepts new AND gently used children's books, clothing, outerwear, and shoes. They only accept NEW socks and undies. Also, donations made to Cradles to Crayons go right back into the greater Philadelphia community.

One thing I remember clearly about getting bags for my clients during December and January is just how strong the need was. December was a naturally hectic time for Cradle to Crayons! And as a result, the "Giving Factory" (the wonderful warehouse where Cradles to Crayons houses their donations) was in need of some serious restocking come January! So if you are cleaning out closets after the holiday season, consider Cradles to Crayons for your books and clothes! Let's continue to restock the "Giving Factory"!

~Meg Hess, Cradles to Crayons coordinator



AGAINST HUNGER

food • community • sustainability

Sunday, January 29 through Sunday, February 12th

Feel free to come in and peruse our fabulous auction items and sign your name to place a bid. Stop in any time the church is open to shop at your leisure. Bidding **will close at 11:30 after worship on February 12th**. Cash or Check payable to NSPC with memo "RAH" only. Questions? Please contact Sue (484-832-8984) or Bob (610-745-0064)

WELCOME TO THE RISE AGAINST HUNGER AUCTION!

January 29th through February 12th

Newtown Square Presbyterian Church

The Rise Against Hunger Mission Group at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church is featuring a uniquely valuable donation of music from Wayne E. and Stella F. Conaway. This exceptional collection includes:

Hundreds of Records & CDs (Classical & Broadway selections)

Classical and Historic Sheet Music

Sound Systems (record players, tape deck, radio, speakers, etc.) &

A Baldwin Hamilton Baby Grand Player Piano!

Mr. and Mrs. Conaway had extensive professional music careers. Wayne, (a tenor) and Stella, (a soprano) performed, taught, and conducted at West Chester University, Haverford High School, Immaculata, Chestnut Hill College, and many other institutions around the greater Philadelphia area.

Many non-music items will also be available:

Gift Cards, Cedar Hope Chest, a variety of Gift Baskets, a Flyer's Carter Hart (goalie) autographed stick, Boy's & Girl's Huffy bikes, and many other items. A complete list of all items is available in the narthex and gathering room. You may also email Heather (nspc3600@gmail.com) for the list!

All Funds will be put toward our food packaging event on March 12th! Our goal is to package 20,000 meals for hungry children worldwide.

JOIN US at this exciting event from Jan 29th to Feb.12th

at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church

3600 Goshen Road, Newtown Square, Pa.

Questions & Information: 484-832-8984

Or Email nspc3600@gmail.com



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Women's Bible Study

Date: Monday, February 6, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Gathering Room

Hostess: Ginni Condo

Study Leader: Marge DeYoung

Lesson 5: *Sabbath and Hospitality*

All women are welcome.

*Join us for fellowship,
personal and spiritual growth*



Mark your calendar with the date of our

Presbyterian Women's

FAT SUNDAY

February 19, 2023

**We shall be serving Fasnachts (doughnuts)
during our coffee hour!**

"Fat Sunday" shall take place in the Lounge after worship on February 19, 2023 as Ash Wednesday falls on February 22nd this year.



The Last Tuesday Book Club

This month, we will meet via ZOOM on February 28th. We are still trying to decide on our book for February. Stay tuned! We will announce it soon.

Feel free to join us each month or try us out for just one meeting because the title intrigues you. New members are always welcome and feel free to bring a friend.

For more information, contact Lynne Corle at (610-563-5355) or Lcorle217@gmail.com

Happy Reading!



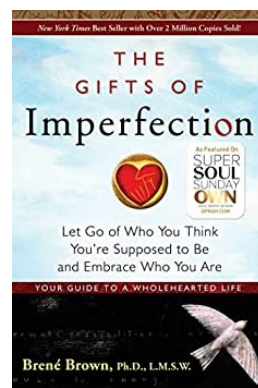


Mom's Group is returning!!

Stay Tuned for more information.

We will be reading and discussing:

“The Gifts of Imperfection” by Brené Brown



COMING SOON....KIDS' MUSIC CAFÉ



Offered twice a month for kids aged 4 – 12. Held in the Music Room immediately after worship. Snacks, music, and fun provided!

A minimum of 10 children needed to make music together!

To ask questions or to sign up, see Pastor Jeanne or Ting Ting Wong. The program will begin once we have 10 children registered.

February Birthdays



02/01 — Margie Conway

02/01 — Dot Gauntlett

02/01 — Kathy Saybolt

02/02 — Susan Thompson

02/03 — Debi Schuler

02/03 — Laurie Lynch

02/04 — Ron Hill

02/04 — Sara Boninu

02/04 — Dennis DiGirolamo

02/04 — Arlene Wadsworth

02/07 — Jules Prevost

02/07 — Audria Moore

02/07 — James Huey

02/10 — Jen Gries

02/10 — Harold Eder II

02/11 — Natalie Andress

02/12 — Chosa (Molly) Vokhiwa

02/13 — Henry Fleck

02/25 — Earl Ekas

02/26 — Dylan Condo

02/26 — Cannon Ebersole

02/26 — Allegra Sanner

02/28 — Lane Ebersole

02/28 — Olivia Ebersole

02/28 — Scott Seltzer

02/29 — Liliana Condo

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 8 am Men's Bible Fellowship 10:30 am Pastor's Bible Study	2 6 pm AA	3	4
5 10 am Worship/SS 11 am Fellowship Hour 11 am Kids' Group 6 pm Youth Group	6 10 am Knitting for Peace 1 pm PW Women's Bible Study 7 pm B&G Mtg	7	8 10:30 am Pastor's Bible Study 7pm Deacons	9 6 pm AA	10	11 5 pm Family Bowling Night
12 10 am Worship/SS 11 am Fellowship Hour & Celebration for Sara Boninu	13 10 am Knitting for Peace	14 8 am Men's Bible Fellowship	15 10:30 am Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm Session	16 6 pm AA	17	18
19 10 am Worship/SS 11 am Fellowship Hour "Fastnacht Sunday"	20 10 am Knitting for Peace	21	22	23 6 pm AA	24	25
26 10 am Worship/SS 11 am Fellowship Hour	27 10 am Knitting for Peace	28 8 am Men's Bible Fellowship 1pm Last Tuesday Book Club				

In Ministry Together at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church:

Pastor The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas
Director of Youth and Family Ministry Sara Boninu
Director of Music Ting Ting Wong
Church Office Manager Heather Impriano
Sunday School Teachers Paige Fiore, Brad Kohlhepp, & Sara Boninu
Nursery Attendant Jeannette Giovanetti
Co-Directors, Newtown Square Presbyterian Church Preschool Jane Fioravanti & Meghan Kazanjian
Clerk of Session Buff Biddle
President, Board of Trustees Jim Shea
Treasurer Dave Sampson
Head Usher Grant Snyder
The Sacristy Guild of St. Martha Carol Guest
Presbyterian Women Ginny Berman

Plus... all the members of NSPC

SESSION/BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Chris Barmes	Sue Bechtold	Rebecca DiPersia
Ginny Berman	Lynne Corle	Joe Falcon
Joe Marchesani	Siobhian Robinson	Meg Hess
Jerry Schauer	Debbie Weiss	Jim Shea

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator: Nancy Gingras

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Ed Arraya	Nicolle Arraya	Betsy Bender
Nancy Gingras	Sara DiGirolamo	Rich Digby
Stacey Kucera	Jennifer Gries	Robbyn Marchesani
Karen Shea	Debbie Villano	Barbara Nicolardi

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